

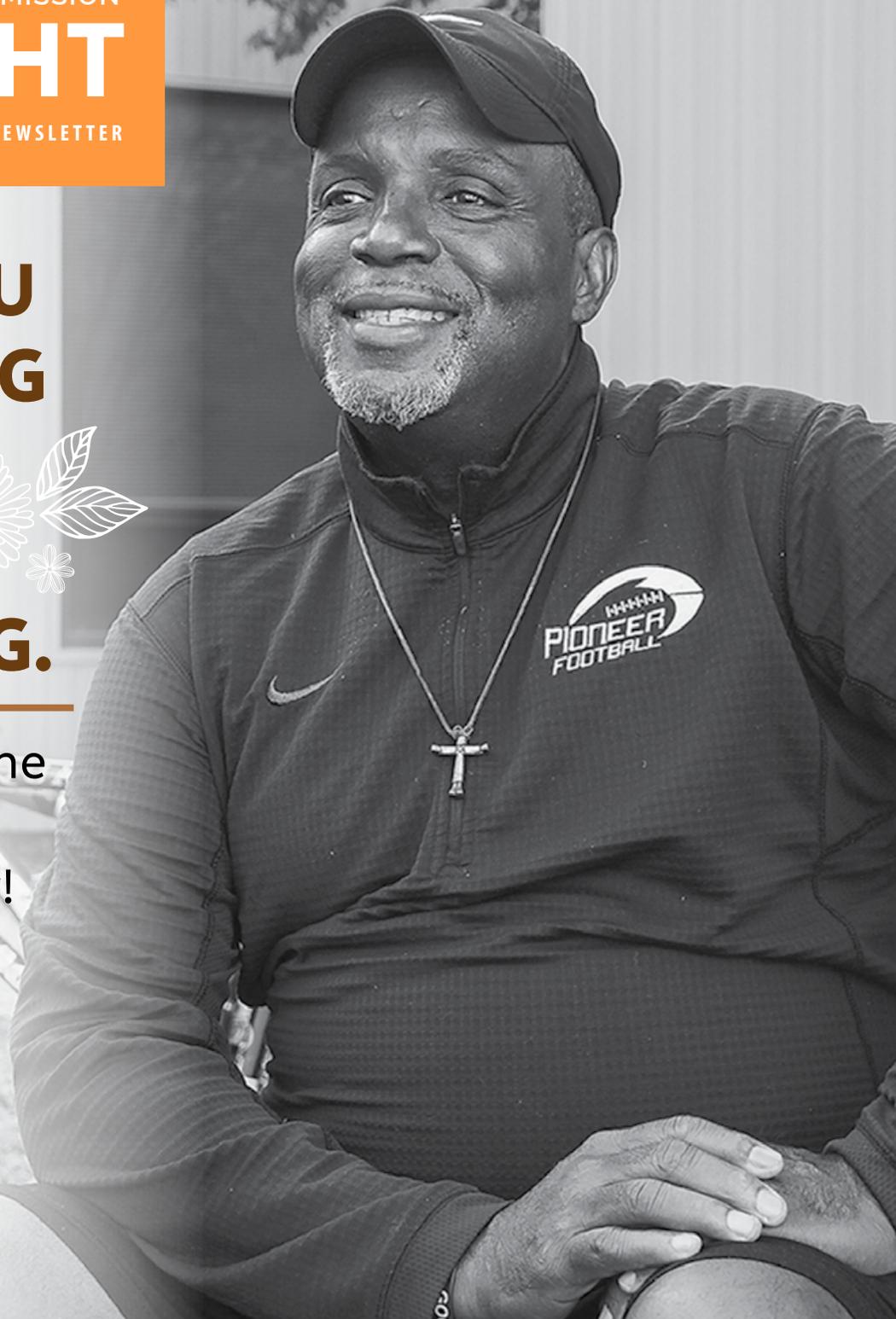
THE LIGHT

VOLUME 63 • NO. 1 • 2023 EASTER NEWSLETTER

THANK YOU FOR GIVING *Gordon* A NEW BEGINNING.



Because of you, he
has joy in his
heart this Easter!



Don't miss ...



Help our hurting neighbors this
Easter Page 2



"I've been reborn."
Page 3



Help meet our Easter needs
Page 4



A Message from DR. TERRY MEGLI

THE GIFT OF *Eternal Life*

Easter is such an incredible time of year, isn't it? A day when we're both humbled by the sacrifice Jesus made on the cross and lifted up as children of the King. It still amazes me that God goes to such great lengths to make you and me part of His family!

That's why we're committed to making local men, women and children feel welcome here at City Union Mission. We invite them to be part of our family... and share with them the eternal hope that Jesus freely offers us all when we accept Him as our Father.

This Easter, you are sharing the blessings of love and community with everyone who comes through our doors. Through your prayers and financial gifts, you give them the strength to overcome their current challenges and start on a path toward new life.

Thank you for making this Easter a season of rejoicing. **I hope your own celebrations are especially meaningful, knowing how lives are being transformed through your generosity and God's unending grace.**

Giving thanks to God,

Dr. Terry Megli
Chief Executive Officer



HELP OUR HURTING NEIGHBORS



Help make a new beginning possible for more men and women this Easter!

- ♥ **A hot meal for \$2.50 – often the first step to a new life in Christ**
- ♥ An overnight stay in our safe shelter
- ♥ Christ-centered care & healing in our life-change programs
- ✉ Give now using the enclosed reply card and envelope.
- ✦ Give online anytime at **cityunionmission.org**.

The Beauty of Biblical Hospitality

When someone in need walks through our doors, **someone like Gordon**, (whose story is on page 3), we're committed to sharing the gospel and guiding them on their journey from poverty, homelessness and despair to self-reliance, joy and a new life in Christ.

It's a calling that requires Biblical Hospitality in our interactions with our guests and with one another. That hospitality is expressed through compassion, competence and collaboration, enabling our staff to restore hope to those who are lost and desperate.

Biblical Hospitality includes:

- Seeing the inherent value of others as beings created in the image of God.
- Accurately recognizing others' pain, suffering and struggles and showing them empathetic understanding.
- Acting in helpful ways to alleviate their pain and suffering.
- Demonstrating the fruit of the spirit – love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.
- Developing essential knowledge and skills and working in harmony with other Mission departments, enabling us to best serve our guests and fulfill our united purpose.



To learn more about how the Mission offers Biblical Hospitality to our community, visit cityunionmission.org/what-we-do

“I’ve been reborn and my future looks bright.”



Gordon wanted to be just like his father. “He only had a third-grade education, but he owned his own successful business. He was a strong man who believed in himself and taught me to be manly and self-reliant. I looked up to him.”

But his father also drank heavily, and when he went to work for his dad after high school, Gordon started drinking, too. “That’s when my life spiraled out of control,” he says.

Over the years, he tried to get sober, but relapsed again and again. **He felt like a failure, far from the strong and self-reliant man his father had raised him to be.** “I always wondered, ‘Am I good enough?’ I never had peace.”

Finally, he fell into a deep depression, quit his job and retreated to his apartment, alone and desperate. “I had lost faith in life. I was drinking myself to death,” he says. “Then my sister told me I needed to get help, and that night in a dream, God told me to come here.”

Gordon did what the Lord said and came to City Union Mission, where he found what he’d been searching for all his life. “I’ve been reborn. I’m a child of God.”

“ Now I’m walking with God. ”

Through one-on-one counseling, faith-based classes and membership in a local church, Gordon has found the emotional healing, support and strategies he needs to live his life in a new way. “Now, when I have struggles, I put them in the Father’s hands and I have peace of mind.”

Through our Mission Works Vocational Development, Gordon plans to complete forklift training, then we’ll connect him with potential employers. And when he’s saved enough money, he’ll get a place of his own. “The Mission has given me the opportunity to succeed. Now, my future looks bright.”

With Jesus’ love in his heart and hope for the future, Gordon is grateful for your support this Easter. “I’m going to keep my faith strong and follow the path the Lord has for me.”

HELP MEET OUR EASTER NEEDS



Sunday, April 9: Our Easter Celebration from 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.!

Easter is a day of joy and celebration. But right now, far too many of our neighbors are struggling with the rising costs of housing and food. They're turning here... and YOU can help welcome them with love and a special meal!

Drop off donations at our Food Warehouse at 1020 E. 10th Street,
Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

No time to shop? Donate now!

☎ (816) 474-9380 ✨ cityunionmission.org

URGENTLY NEEDED ITEMS!

Drop off any of these items **by Friday, April 7:**

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> SPIRAL SLICED HAMS | <input type="checkbox"/> POWDERED MILK |
| <input type="checkbox"/> INSTANT MASHED POTATOES | <input type="checkbox"/> DESSERTS (homemade or store-bought) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BUTTER | <input type="checkbox"/> COFFEE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CANNED VEGETABLES | <input type="checkbox"/> CREAMER |

CUTTING THROUGH THE NOISE OF LIFE

Our world is loud. Quiet and rest don't just happen; we have to make space for them. Here are four ways to create more room for peace in your life:

- 1. Set limits.** Overbooked schedules edge out time for rest. Create rules and structure around the time you spend looking at screens, fulfilling commitments, and even working.
- 2. Declutter.** Excess stuff in your space brings excess clutter to your mind. Organize and simplify your home to enjoy greater rest.
- 3. Practice the Sabbath.** The Jewish tradition of Sabbath means to denote a particular expanse of time as set apart for rest. Worship, contemplation, prayer and simply taking a nice, long exhale can all help us pause and reconnect with God and ourselves.
- 4. Plan for the future.** Have you created an estate plan? Roughly 70% of Americans do not have an up-to-date will; many avoid the process because they feel overwhelmed or assume they have many years still to prepare. The process of creating or updating a will can be surprisingly simple, and it creates immeasurable peace of mind.

For the full version of this article, request a FREE copy of "6 Ways to Experience More Peace Today" by contacting Karl Ploeger at ☎ (816) 329-1475 or ✉ karl.ploeger@cityunionmission.org - or bless your family today with an up-to-date will at christianwill.org/cityunionmission.



Calling all volunteers for
Camp CUMCITO!

Sign up by April 30 at
campcumcito.org

"Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life."

- Romans 6:4, KJV



HOTLINE FOR THE HOMELESS
(816) 474-4599



HOPE LIVES HERE

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